

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /094 W

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P R 122137Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8246

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

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FOR AMBASSADOR MYERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNEP, PINT, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACY FOR UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP

REF: A) USUN 1869 B) SEIFMAN-TREVITHICK TELECON JULY 7

1. TEXT OF AUSTRALIAN NOTE, RECEIVED BY USUN JULY 12, IS SET FORTH BELOW AS PARA 2. RESPONDING TO PRIOR AUSTRALIAN QUERIES CONCERNING U.S. SUPPORT FOR MCMICHAEL'S CANDIDACY, PER REF B, MISOFF INDICATED U.S. POSITION HAD NOT CHANGED, I.E. U.S. NOT ABLE TO SUPPORT MCMICHAEL AT THIS TIME. NEXT WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP MEETING IN NEW YORK SCHEDULED FOR JULY 15. WOULD APPRECIATE PROMPT GUIDANCE.

2. QUOTE:

NOTE NO. 93

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THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AUSTRALIA TO THE

UNITED NATIONS PRESENTS HIS COMPLIMENTS TO THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF STATES MEMBERS OF THE WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP AND HAS THE HONOUR TO REFER TO THE ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT AT THE WEO GROUP MEETING ON 30 JANUARY, 1976, AUSTRALIA PROPOSED THE CANDIDATURE OF DR. D.F. MCMICHAEL FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP. AT THAT TIME AUSTRALIA REQUESTED THE GROUP TO ENDORSE A CANDIDATE FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE. ON 17 MARCH THE WEO GROUP DETERMINED THAT THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD MAKE A DEMARCHE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL INFORMING HIM THAT THE GROUP HAD AN INTEREST IN FILLING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP. IN DUE COURSE A DEMARCHE WAS MADE TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL WHO NOTED THE GROUP'S INTEREST.

THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT BELIEVES THAT THE CHANCES FOR A MEMBER OF THE WEO GROUP TO OBTAIN THE POST ARE STILL STRONG AND THAT THEY WILL BE ENHANCED IF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP CAN LEND THEIR SUPPORT TO A SINGLE CANDIDATE. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT FIRMLY BELIVES THAT DR. D.F. MCMICHALE IS THE STRONGEST KNOWN CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION AND HOPES THE WEO GROUP WILL BE IN A POSITION TO ENDORSE HIM AT THE NEXT WEO GROUP MEETING.

THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT WHILE CONTINUING TO BELIEVE THAT INTERESTS OF THE GROUP WILL BEST BE SERVED BY THE ENDORSEMENT OF A CANDIDATE, IS NONETHELESS AVAILING ITSELF OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO APPRAISE INTERESTED MEMBERS IN OTHER GROUPS OF DR. MCMICHAEL'S CANDIDATURE.

NEW YORK, 7 JULY, 1976. UNQUOTE
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, ELECTION CANDIDATES, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, DIPLOMATIC NOTES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN02838
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760268-0511
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760766/aaaacgjf.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <25 AUG 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AUSTRALIAN CANDIDACY FOR UNEP EXECUTIVE DIRECTORSHIP
TAGS: PINT, SENV, AORG, AS, UNEP, (MCMICHAEL)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006